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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of : Van Hunter, et al.  
United States Serial No. : to be assigned  
Filing Date : to be assigned  
Prior United States Serial No. : 09/346,870  
Prior Filing Date : July 1, 1999  
Prior Examiner : Scott A. Waite  
Prior Group Art Unit : 2663  
Title : AUTOMATIC LOAD SHARING-TRUNKING

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please preliminarily amend this continuation application as follows: